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County review
Upper-tier municipality looking into physician recruitment program. See page 2.

Big decisions
Owner says Highlands Cinemas must open in 2021 if it is to survive. See page 3.

New book
Local author, artist present *Field Hooky*. See page 4.

Paddlers Chris Varga, left, and Nick Newman get ready to tackle the Gull River rapids on Sunday, Dec. 20 at the Minden Whitewater Preserve. Both experienced paddlers, Varga and Newman were happy to get outside for ideal temperatures, which hovered close to zero degrees Celsius. /DARREN LUM Staff

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Reviewing physician recruitment program

CHAD INGRAM
County Life Staff

Haliburton County councillors discussed a number of potential changes to the county's physician recruitment program during a Dec. 16 meeting.

The county has a recruitment committee and a physician recruitment co-rdinator in the form of Cheryl Kennedy, formerly the administrator of the Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team. A report received by councillors last week made a number of suggestions, including expanding the scope of the county's recruitment work to clinics outside of its borders that serve its residents, namely the clinics in Kinmount and Dorset.

"The reality is those clinics provide care to a lot of residents of Haliburton County," said chief administrative officer Mike Rutter, explaining it was the recommendation that if 20 per cent of the patients of a clinic were residents of Haliburton County, that the county assist in recruitment efforts.

"That's not significant to me," said Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts, wondering why the figure of 20 per cent had been chosen.

"From my perspective, it was more about numbers," said Rutter, adding that the 20 per cent threshold would mean that for a clinic with 750 patients on its roster, at least 150 of them would reside in the county.

Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt wondered about the specifics of determining where patients lived, since presumably that would involve accessing their files. Moffatt also wondered at what point the county would approach neighbouring municipalities about funding.

In the case of the Dorset Health Hub, "The roster is full from what I understand, it's very difficult to get in there," Moffatt said. "And I would like to see a conversation between the operators of that clinic and the county before agreeing to this."

"I agree that we need to have a conversation knowing how many people in Minden Hills, including my own family, use the one in Kinmount," said Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin, adding he too wanted to see what percentage of patients at the clinic were actually from Haliburton County. "Since I've sat in this chair, there's been more doctors in Kinmount than there has been in Minden."

"This is a fulsome report with suggestions, recommendations for a number of significant changes in this program," said Moffatt. "This program is really maturing and the fact that there is an interest in having further discussion on this particular part is good news."

Among other recommendations was the expansion of the terms of reference for the county's recruitment activities, including the recruitment of rural generalists, nurse practitioners and locums.

"It is a really important part of physician recruitment," Rutter said of locums. "Physician burnout in rural practice is a really significant issue, so this is one area where we can ensure that the physicians get the respite that they require, but also that when they're on that leave of one form or another, that the community is still receiving medical care.

There is also a recommendation to change the financial incentives offered to physicians by the county. Haliburton County currently offers $25,000 per year to physicians who make a four-year commitment of service, and a maximum payout of $150,000 for a six-year commitment. Research found that most communities seem to offer incentives of between $100,000 and $150,000 for a five-year term. The recommended change is to provide $25,000 a year for a rural generalist up to a maximum of six years, and $25,000 per year up to a maximum of four years for family and emergency doctors.

It's also recommended that up to $5,000 worth of moving expenses for incoming physicians be covered by the county.

COVID-19

Due to the pandemic's 28-day provincial lockdown both of our offices will be closed to the public until Monday, January 25th. Our newspapers will still be printing as usual during this time.

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TLDSB hires new superintendent to replace retiring Dave Golden

MIKE BAKER
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) has a new superintendent of learning.

At the school board's annual organizational meeting, held in Lindsay on Dec. 8, it was announced that Jay MacJanet would be taking on the role, replacing the retiring Dave Golden. He joined TLDSB on Jan. 4.

"We look forward to welcoming Jay to our senior administration team," said TLDSB director of education Wes Hahn. "Jay's experience within the education system will bring a new perspective to the table, and assist the board in its commitment to high levels of student achievement."

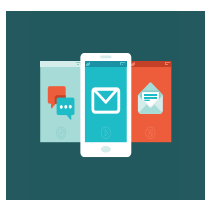
MacJanet's main role, Hahn says, will be supporting schools and working with administrators and teachers to further develop their instructional knowledge. It was noted at the meeting that TLDSB has around 16,000 students enrolled across 48 schools in the area – 41 elementary schools and seven high schools. In total, the board employs around 3,000 staff.

With an extensive 15 year background as a school administrator within the District School Board of Niagara, MacJanet has been described as an "exemplary instructional leader", by Hahn.

"He is a respected leader for instructional knowledge, and has a passion for student learning. [MacJanet] understands the commitment and passion it takes to ensure all students can learn and achieve success. He will be a great addition to TLDSB," Hahn said.

MacJanet plans to move from the Niagara region to Muskoka, along with his wife and four children.

"I am truly excited about the opportunity and privilege to serve the students and communities of TLDSB," MacJanet said. "My hope is to support the current learning culture, as well as to further enhance the development of student achievement through continued collaboration with students, staff and the community."



Have a thought, comment or opinion you'd like to share?

Send a letter to the editor to
mike@haliburtonpress.com

Big decisions ahead at Highlands Cinemas

CHAD INGRAM
County Life Staff

Highlands Cinemas owner Keith Stata, seen here in a still from a documentary, says he needs to open the theatre at some point in 2021 for it to stay in business. /Photo courtesy of Matt Finlin

"We need to open next year, and if we don't we have problems," says Keith Stata, owner of Kinmount's Highlands Cinemas. "We need to be able to open in 2021, at least at some point."

The COVID-19 pandemic has hit the beloved seasonal movie theatre and museum hard, with Stata ultimately not opening at all in 2020, something that's never happened in four decades in business.

"The problem is after 40 years, I know what makes the theatre work," he says. "You can't have staff on when you might be open, or might not be open."

While he had applications for staff for last summer, at one point provincial restrictions had made it look like theatres would not be permitted to open at all. The mandated closure of certain groups of businesses also meant that groups of movie-goers, essential for the theatre's livelihood, would not be in the area.

"First of all, we need the camps," Stata says. "How many camps were open?"

The same went for school trips, and other types of group outings.

While the provincial government eventually allowed movie theatres to open their doors, it was with social distancing measures in place. Highlands Cinemas is comprised of a handful of small theatres, The laws around social distancing mean he could fit 11 people in one, 12 in another. It's not enough to pay the bills.

"If they don't relax social distancing, how the hell can we open the theatre?" Stata says.

Heading into the season, Stata purchases popcorn in bulk, spending $15,000. Insurance costs about the same. "You spend $30,000 and open the doors, and nobody's here," he says.

There's also the work that nobody sees.

"People think I just close the doors and go to Florida for five months," Stata says, estimating he spends about 120 hours each fall closing up shop.

There's also the future of movie-going in general to consider.

"The biggest problem is, are people going to feel safe, ever, going to the theatre?" Stata says.

As for what will happen in 2021, Stata says it's too early to tell, and that there are just too many unknowns at this time with what will happen with the curve of the virus and what provincial regulations might look like by the time next summer arrives.

One thing seems fairly certain, though.

"For us to go two years without any income would be a stretch," Stata says.

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Field Hooky collaboration celebrates childhood, nature

SUE TIFFIN
County Life Staff

The last illustration in the book *Field Hooky* written by Deborah J. Reed and illustrated by Janet Trull. "On the left, the mother's memory of climbing a tree," said Trull. "On the right, she comes back years later with her daughter only to find the tree is gone. But they plant a new sapling. Our shared relationship with nature is an important one."

Readers familiar with seeing Deborah J. Reed and Janet Trull's names and written work in the *Haliburton County Echo* and *County Life* will now see their names on a colourful collaboration: a picture book celebrating childhood, freedom, nostalgia and nature.

Field Hooky, a book featuring Reed's autobiographical poem, illustrated by Trull was created by the two writers and artists working remotely together this year to self-publish the work.

"It's basically my story as a kid from age six to about 12," said Reed. "And that's all. It's innocence, it's freedom, it's beauty, it's just that whole song that the world makes for a kid when a kid isn't encumbered by any tragedies or restrictions."

"It was special," said Trull. "The thing though that I found about her poem, was that the themes really are universal. We all have similar nostalgia for our childhood. Everybody can remember that special time when you were alone in nature and it was powerful."

Reed has been living in Haliburton for the past three years and visiting the area for much longer. After moving to the area, she felt restless, missing the family, friends – Netflix – that she left behind, and said she started writing more and more, works that have been published in this paper.

"On the bus up and down to and from Toronto, I began writing," she said. "I've been doing that for a couple of years, just on my iPhone and sometimes the painting I did happened to match or sometimes I did a painting and then wrote."

Writing, she said, kept her "out of trouble in terms of loneliness, inertia" as she adjusted to the passing of her father and her mom's dementia, and also helped calm nervousness while on the bus traveling to visit her mom at a long-term care home this year.

"It was curative for my spirit," she said.

But being creative was part of her childhood, too, her love of language coming from her dad, and her passion from her mom.

"I did a lot of writing and drawing as a kid," she said. "I was a really isolated and lonely kid. This poem came from that awkward childhood of mine, being totally in my head and introverted. My mom and dad just let me play by myself at the end of that road and that became *Field Hooky*."

The poem is one of her favourites from her collection of writing, the self-publishing a sort of Christmas gift to herself, but also to her children, their children, and even former students who have ordered a copy of *Field Hooky*.

"It's just making a lot of people feel good right now," said Reed.

Reed asked Trull if she might want to collaborate on the project after seeing her creative work, turning to her to illustrate the poem.

"It's so personal for me and powerful for me that I don't want to touch it with my paintbrush, I want somebody else to figure this out for me."

Trull, Reed laughs, had high-speed internet, enabling her to lay the book out. But besides that, she was able to create the visuals for Reed's memories.

"I needed her," said Reed. "I needed her experience, her vision, her generosity, and she just jumped right on board. I was very flattered and blown away by what happened."

Trull said yes right away.

Deborah J. Reed has published an autobiographical poem about a segment of her childhood, self-publishing a book called *Field Hooky*. /Submitted

Janet Trull created the illustrations for Deborah J. Reed's new book, *Field Hooky*./Submitted

"I love it when people ask," laughed Trull. "She phoned and asked if I would illustrate it and I said yes. I very rarely turn down the chance to do something that's new and creative and the chance to work with somebody new and get to know them. It's just, that's the great thing about Haliburton, there's so many creative people and opportunities to test your creativity.There are a lot of people out there and I think you have to just say yes when somebody comes up with a good plan."

Also a former teacher, Trull said she often encouraged her students to avoid using a pencil, which then leads to erasing lines that have been put down. Instead, she starts with a Sharpie.

"I always sketch with a Sharpie and you just trust that you're going to come up with an illustration that is OK. I enjoyed putting my Sharpie on the page and seeing what happened."

The pair worked together to add a woodland creature, a sort of talisman on each page to follow along with the child in the poem, to help bridge a gap between generations, with modern-day parents potentially feeling uneasy with a child exploring by herself in a field.

"I think my favourite is the final illustration in the book because it shows the ghost of a girl climbing a big tree, and then on the other side it shows mother, who brought her daughter back to the meadow to show her where she grew up and to show her the big climbing tree," said Trull. "Of course the climbing tree is gone so they're sitting on a stump and looking over the meadow and how it's changed but there's a little pail and trowel and sapling to show they've planted a new tree. That was my connection between the generations, and hopefully people will see that connection, that our stories from our childhood are good ones to connect to the kids today."

Trull called it a colourful story, and an enjoyable experience to work on with Reed.

"Especially right now, people are trying to get their kids outside and tell the tales of a time when there was more freedom for kids to wander," said Trull. "We've actually imposed a lot of restrictions on kids that didn't exist before so it is nice to remember the forest and the meadow and all those places are actually pretty friendly."

When more copies of *Field Hooky* arrive at the end of December, they will be available at the Rails End Gallery in Haliburton.

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Paddling on

Paddler Nick Newman creates a large wave in his wake while negotiating the waves of the Gull River on Sunday, Dec. 20 at the Minden Whitewater Preserve.

Above, paddler Chris Varga plays in the rapids, holding his position for dozens of seconds while Kaitlyn Pinikett waits her turn to take his place on Sunday, Dec. 20 at the Minden Whitewater Preserve. /DARREN LUM Staff

Paddler Kaitlyn Pinkett paddles in place, riding the rapids of the Gull River.

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- Bill Kulas

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CMCA AUDITED

A silly tradition

MIKE BAKER
Editor

WHEN YOU REALLY think about it, New Year's resolutions are a bit silly.

It's a tradition that dates back some 4,000 years, to the time of the ancient Babylonians. There's evidence that the Greeks, the Romans and early Christians all subscribed to the idea in one form or another. Yes, I know it's a cliché, but some traditions are meant to be broken, and I wouldn't be at all sorry to see the New Year's resolution fall by the wayside.

Bear with me for a minute. According to recent research, the top 10 most common commitments individuals tend to make when ushering in the new year all have to do with personal improvement. I see it all the time on my social media feeds.

"New year, new me! This is when I finally follow through and…"

The lists go on and on. Exercising more, losing weight and quitting smoking are the big three, as I call them, while other frequent pop-ups include becoming more organized, saving more money, or learning a new skill or hobby.

These are all great goals, and I'm not trying to put down any of you who may have made a New Year's resolution with the intention of following through. But the stats don't lie. While doing some online reading over the weekend, I stumbled across an interesting column on the History Channel website. It referenced

a report published by the Statistic Brain Research Institute that said as many as 45 per cent of Americans say they usually make New Year's resolutions, but only eight per cent of those are successful in achieving their goals.

I tried my best to find a Canadian comparative, but all I found was a 1,000-person poll completed in 2016 asking what new flavour of Timbit Canucks would like to see introduced. Terry's Chocolate Orange was among the options. I couldn't make this up even if I tried.

Anyway, my point is that while many, many people will make a promise to change something about themselves this year, very few will actually follow through. I've been guilty of it myself in the past. You get caught up in the moment, see your friends and family making grandiose commitments and don't want to be left behind, so you jump in without really thinking it through.

The first few days, things go great. It was real easy giving up that beer and bag of chips. Running a mile on the treadmill wasn't so hard, maybe you'll push it up to two miles next week. Only next week doesn't happen. You've already stopped going to the gym. Why? Because you don't *really* want to change. If you did, you'd have done it already.

There's nothing at all magical about Jan. 1. There's a reason that, statistically, so few people succeed with their New Year's resolution – their motivations are all wrong. Pushing things off and waiting for one day to come around every year to try and make real changes to your life is a recipe for failure.

If you want to make a change, then by all means go ahead and make a change. But don't do it simply to conform to some weird idea that it's the right thing to do, or more aptly, the right time to do it.

Oh, and please, for the love of my uncle Pete, don't post about it on your Facebook account. Trust me, I'm saving you from some awkward encounters a few weeks from now when distant relatives or acquaintances ask you how your long forgotten about resolution is going.

Top 10 signs that you overdid New Year's

STEVE GALEA
Humour Columnist

NOW THAT New Year's has come and gone, you might be wondering if you overdid the celebrating. Here are your top 10 clues.

1. You're not wearing your COVID mask in the right place.
2. You somehow joined a boy band.
3. You wake up wondering "Whose lampshade is this?"
4. You find yourself at a MAGA rally.
5. Definitely not your underwear.
6. You have six new cats.
7. You made snow angels. Face down.
8. You have no recollection of 2020.
9. You told your life story to a snowman.
10. You just went viral.

Belinda Gallagher captured this photo of a handsome Northern Shrike, that made a pit stop in her back backyard back on Nov. 18. The Northern Shrike is a migrant, predatory songbird that breeds in the far north. Gallagher notes it is sometimes referred to by its nickname the 'butcher bird'. /Submitted photo

Finding the threads that bind us all

DARREN LUM

County Life Staff

Back in December, students at the Cardiff Elementary School and Wilberforce Elementary School learned about the important role nature plays during the year for Indigenous people, particularly during the holiday season.

Led by Métis Nation's Melissa Perry and Tammy Hoover, the multi-day virtual lesson held on Dec. 2 and 4 was facilitated by the Trillium Lakelands District School Board, which gave students here in the Highlands and across the board an opportunity to not just learn, but feel open to share their own family traditions.

The schools' principal Elaine Fournier said the students were all very excited about the traditional craft making.

"The students made many connections to crafts and traditions that are important in their own homes. As well, the students were eager to discuss the important role that nature plays throughout the year and especially [during] the holidays," she wrote in an email.

The lesson included a hands-on lesson on how to make traditional mittens, which were taken home by students.

After the learning opportunity facilitated by the TLDSB's community partners, the Métis Nation of Ontario, the students were left with an appreciation for Indigenous knowledge and willingness to share their own traditions.

"The day after the celebration, one student brought in a pair of traditional mittens made by her great grandmother. She was eager to share with her classmates and was beaming with pride as she talked about her own family's traditions," she wrote.

Fournier continues, "It is very important for the children to learn about Indigenous ways of knowing because it provides opportunities for the students to see themselves reflected in the curriculum and to learn more about others who live in their community. Learning is much more meaningful when the students are able to interact in a hands-on way."

This event was made possible through the TLDSB Indigenous Education Integrating Authentic Voices in Your Indigenous Education Program, which enabled the participating primary students to take home their creations and the storybook, *The Métis Christmas Mittens.*

Wilberforce Elementary School students Grade 7 Jordan Amos, left, and Grade 8 Shalynn Badger hold up their mittens they made because of the Indigenous holiday celebration event, which was held virtually. Students were able to take home a pair of mittens they made. /Subumitted by Barb Davies

Wilberforce Elementary School Grade 4 student Savannah Shanks works on her mittens during the Indigenous holiday celebration

AH to open rinks in January

The Township of Algonquin Highlands plans to open its outdoor skating rinks in Dorset and Stanhope, dependent upon the weather, but the township will close the rinks if COVID-19 protocols are not adhered to by residents.

Amid the ongoing pandemic and in accordance with regulations provided by the health unit, only recreational skating will be permitted. There is to be no sports equipment used on the ice surfaces, and no gameplay is permitted.

"In addition to the above regulations all COVID-19 social distancing requirements shall be adhered to," reads a release from the township. "Failure to follow these regulations will result in the closure of the rinks."

- Staff

Highlands summer festival 2021 Live Theatre

Welcome to the Highlands Summer Festival

Photo Contest

Each month we will be posting a photo from one of the shows we presented over the past two decades. The challenge for you is to identify the show and the year it was presented. There could be additional questions as well, depending on the whims of the contest master.
All you have to do is submit your answers to
contest@highlandssummerfestival.on.ca
by the 25th of the month. We will select one winner from all the correct entries we received by deadline. The winner will receive two tickets to any of the 2021 season shows because, **YES! there will be a season next year.** A new photo will be posted at the beginning of each month at which time we'll announce the winner of the previous contest.
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….just a nostalgic stroll down our theatrical memory lane and a chance to score some tickets to the 2021 Highlands Summer Festival season.
A new year a new start and the quizmaster is in a very generous mood. So, we have some tickets left over from the last contest and so the winner of this contest can claim six tickets to any production of the 2021 Highlands Summer Festival season.
Six tickets are up for grabs with the following photo…..

So ... Good Luck!!!!

Contest #8

We're looking for the name of the show, the year it was presented and the names of the two actors, (either their characters or their real names), you see here. Bonus points to anyone who can tell us why this particular play is special in the pantheon of productions presented by Highlands Summer Festival.

Send your entry by January 25 to:
contest@highlandssummerfestival.on.ca
Watch for the winner to be announced and the next contest in this location in early Febuary. *Good Luck!!!*

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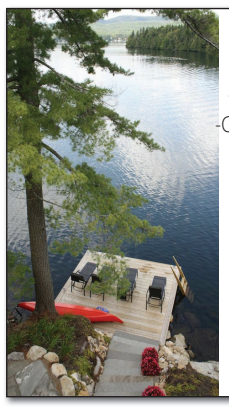

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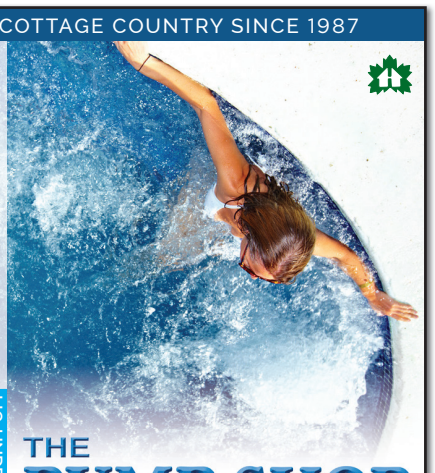

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Painting landscapes...see page 11

THE HALIBURTON COUNTY ECHO

AND MINDEN RECORDER

Vol. 104 No. 11 Wednesday, December 18, 1985 'Voice of the Highlands' 54 pages 40 cents

Minister defends new spills bill to municipal councils

The former minister of the environment and Ontario's major polluters are launching a scare campaign to "destroy a progressive and effective piece of environmental legislation," charges the present minister.

"Knowing as they do that there is little public sympathy for their activities, these major polluters launched a scare campaign to convince more respected members of the community - including municipal officials - to join them," said the Honourable Jim Bradley in a letter to municipal councils.

He was responding to a letter by his predecessor, Andrew Brandt, that told councils the new Spills Bill legislation would increase the liability of municipalities and should be looked into more carefully.

Contrary to what Brandt stated in his letter about the clean up bill being passed in the last days of the

Please turn to Page 3

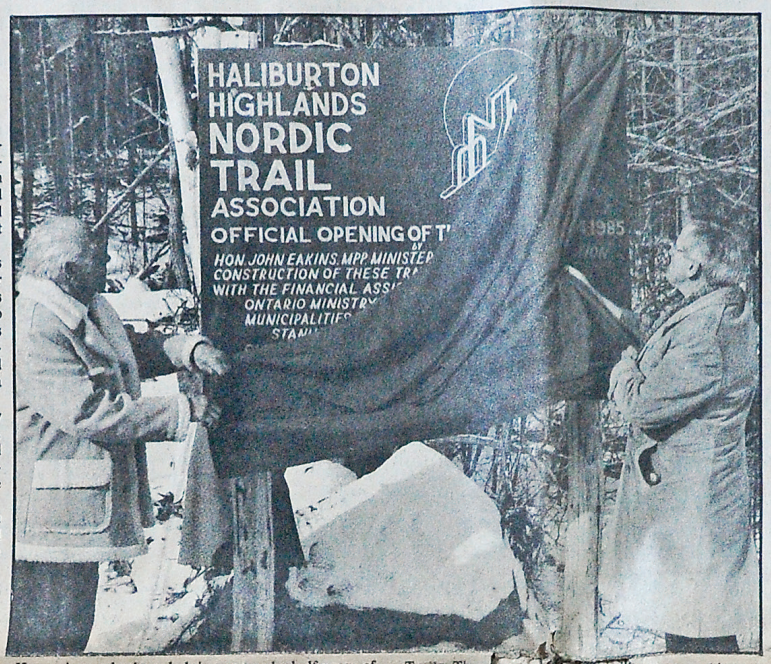
Spot checks are underway in the area

Police have stepped up their spot check campaign throughout Haliburton County in anticipation of the Christmas season and the possibility of an increase in impaired driving.

On Saturday, the Peterborough District Spot Check Team stopped 344 vehicles in various locations in the county. One impaired driver was charged and four 12-hour licence suspensions were handed out.

Throughout the week, officers from Minden detachment also carried out spot checks, stopping a total of 512 vehicles. One impaired driver was charged as a result of these checks, and one 12-hour licence suspension was handed out.

The spot checks will continue at random locations over the next two weeks.



Honouring and acknowledging one and a half years of hard work, warden Dalton MacDonald and John Eakins, Minister of Tourism and Recreation, unveil the sign marking the beginning of the new Nordic Ski Trails. Th... Saturday and w... ...ny skies on approximately 30 people.

Nordic trails open as winter arrives

By MARTHA PERKINS
Staff Reporter

With a fresh blanket of snow covering the area, the Minster of Tourism and Recreation officially opened the Nordic Ski Trails on Saturday.

Past warden Dalton MacDonald and future warden Harry Davis flanked John Eakins as he spoke of how the trail system would be a boon for the area, introducing people to the winter delights the Highlands have to offer.

"What we see here today is a focal point that helps identify Haliburton as a four-season destination," he said later at a luncheon at the PineStone. "It's very important today if we're going to compete for the tourism/recreation dollar."

Eakins had nothing but words of praise for the ski association for coming up with the iniative and drive to start up world-class trails in Haliburton. Volunteers, landowners, the Chamber of Commerce, the corporate sector and the ski club should all be congratulated for their years of hard work and dedication, he said.

Minister praises local efforts

What these people have done, he continuted, was look around the area to see what we had to offer. *Then they capitalized on our acres of wooded land for tourists to spend a relaxing day skiing through.*

"Don't be afraid to cast your net as far as you can and let people know what facilities you have to offer up here," he counselled, adding that if ever they needed help, "my door is open to work with you."

The audience applauded in appreciation when Eakins mentioned that a picture of cross country skiing in the Highlands is on the Christmas cards he is sending out this year.

The luncheon and ribbon cutting were attended by more than 40 people from different areas, including politicians and skiing enthusiasts. Nordic trails president Curtis Eastmure was the first speaker, thanking everyone involved for their help and support. He was later thanked for all of the work he has done to see the trails open.

Wilberforce men hope to unite area businesses

Since there can be strength in numbers, a group of Wilberforce businessmen is getting together to let the world know what their community has to offer.

"We just felt the business are here has a lot to offer and there was no outlet to push the Wilberforce area," says Ric Pringle, owner of the Moonlight Bay Tent and Trailer Park. "Individually it's a lot harder for one person to bring business into the area but as a group we have more to offer."

Along with Kerry Barbour, owner of the Wilberforce IGA, and realtor Don Fevreau, they have drafted up a letter to other businessmen in the area. A presentation has already been made to council and Pringle said they seemed positive and encouraging. Councillor Dwain Tighe is their liason and through him they can communicate between regular meetings.

Their plan is to ask local business owners to join their group and make a contribution to help pay for signs and brochures. Some members may be relegated the task of handing out brochures while others will be asked to attend the Sportsman Show to promote the area. There will also be more communication with the Chamber of Commerce.

Stanhope okays changes to airport

MTC official proposes shorter, narrower runway to avoid problems

The consulting engineers for Stanhope Township have been given the go ahead to come up with a design for the airport improvements following the passing of some recommendations of the Ministry of Transportation and Communications.

In a letter to Stanhope council read at the meeting on Wednesday, transportation officer J.H. Scott said that a reduction in the runway length from 780 m to 765 m is practical under the circumstances.

"Difficulties would have otherwise arisen if the Township had to negotiate an easement on property west of Airport Road," Scott wrote. "Your consultant has advised that the reduced runway length together with the Township building setback restrictions will permit positive control of the land up to nine metres for the take-off/approach surface."

Using the DHC-6 Twin Otter sas the design aircraft for the airport, Scott said the width requirements had been reviewed and the runway should be designed to a width of 18m. The overall width of the graded area should be 38m.

"Use of these widths will no doubt result in some significant cost savings," said Scott.

Council was also told that subsidy for the acquisition of the F. Chambers/J. Bate property had been approved and council can move ahead according to the agreed term.

Another subsidy for the purchase of the Millcreek property was also confirmed by Scott who had had doubts in the past on the possibility.

In regards to another consulting firm, council was told that a survey of the St. Peter's bridge found it to be in poor condition and in need of reinforcement until repairs or construction could begin. The bridge

Please turn to Page 3

Silicon valley north?

Computer boards could become Haliburton industry

By MARTHA PERKINS
Staff Reporter

We are living in the age of computers. School children learn to use them just as their parents learned how to type. Personal computers are popping up in homes whereas twenty years ago computers were huge monstrosities that seemed a maze of blinking lights.

Atari, IBM, Texas Instruments, Commodore, Apple - the names roll off our tongues since they have now become household tools.

But every company, no matter how large, had to have its start somewhere. The Apple was once just the name of a fruit but then became an idea that germinated in one man's mind until it became one of the fastest-selling, easy to use, personal computers.

Consider that there are at least two and a half million owners of Texas Instrument computers, 27,000 of them in Canada. Now once the owner has the basic skills of calling up information or working out problems, he or she may want to broaden their computer horizons and try a new program.

That's where Bruce Ryan of Haliburton wants to fit in. No one thinks Dysart's industrial park will become the next Silicon Valley, but Ryan believes that it can become a manufacturing base for a new line of computer expansion boards designed for Texas Instrument computers.

An expansion board allows a computer operator to do more things with his computer, just as the name implies. At first it looks like a miniature railway set, with copper lines leading from one "house" to the "other" but on closer inspection you can tell that it is a complicated and precise tool for sending information to your computer.

Some of the parts are from Portugal, Malaysia and Taiwan and were put together in Ryan's home just outside Haliburton. Once you know what you are doing, Ryan says reassuringly, it is all quite simple.

He can make a board that will regulate your heating or water, or a simpler one which will control your timer. And if only a tiny percentage of people with Texas Instruments are interested in what he can offer, the size of his market is still pretty good.

"There's this myth that it is all really complicated but it's not," he says. "The manufacturing is not that difficult and it can be done in-house or in a company that specializes in assembly work."

Over the past two years he's been building up a network of associates from all the different fields of interest and also has discovered a wealthy source of talent right here in Haliburton County including Gary Anderson who worked for IBM for 19 years, Eric Lilius with 10 years of intensive microcomputer experience and Harvey Clarke who will head the marketing division.

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Entrepreneur Bruce Ryan is hoping that the expansion board he holds in his hand will one day be mass-produced in Haliburton. The computer expert wants to start a manufacturing company for his products in Haliburton's industrial park.

Legacy.

From humble beginnings in 1953, we have grown to become a recognized insurance brokerage in the Highlands. When my grandfather, Floyd Hall, started the brokerage he focused on building relationships. That remains our objective to this day. Our clients typically know us by name, call us directly or personally visit our office to discuss their needs. We thank them for the trust they place in us. For those who don't know us, we welcome your inquiry.

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The Haliburton Real Estate Team

HIGHWAY 118 $419,000

2-unit duplex home with a solid rental history. Main level consists of 2 bdrms, 1 bath, and large living spaces. 2 bdrm, 2 bath lower level unit with open concept living. Close to the town of West Guilford and a short drive to Haliburton Village. Large lot, perfect for entertaining outdoors. Great investment property.

WILLIAMS LANDING $59,900

Fractional ownership is stress free! Own this fully furnished 3-bdrm, 2 bath cottage with 9 others. Bright open concept living, pine flooring and propane fireplace. Williams Landing offers 4 shared docks, sand beaches, stunning hiking trails and more. Annual maintenance fee includes everything from cottage and yard maintenance, electricity, cottage cleaning, internet, phone and more. Enjoy Kashagawigamog Lake 5 weeks of the year.

CHANDLER POINT $55,700

Experience the freedom of fractional ownership in Chandler Point on beautiful Kashagawigamog Lake. A fully furnished, 3 bdrm/2 bath cottage steps from the beach and outdoor activities. Bring your personal items and groceries to enjoy a maintenance free cottage life. Chandler Point offers a boat dock, canoes/kayaks for use, a playing field and campfire site located on the point to take in amazing views. Annual fee includes property taxes, maintenance and contribution to a reserve fund for ongoing improvements to the cottage and land. Allotted 5 weeks use through the year and shared with 9 owners.

COMMERCIAL - THE LAKE VIEW MOTEL $1,950,000

One of Haliburton's most popular Motels. The Lakeview Motel offers 14 motel rms and personal living quarters. Immaculate grounds and very well maintained buildings. Turnkey operation. Lovely inground pool, 4 hot tubs, horseshoe pit, dining room, BBQ's and much more offered to guests. Personal living quarters with 3 bdrms, 2 baths, 2 living rms and kitchen/dining area. Huge potential to expand on this 3.78-acre parcel.

THE RE/MAX COLLECTION

KENNISIS LAKE $1,675,000

Stunning year-round waterfront home or cottage. This 3 bdrm/3 bath home offers spacious living and high-end finishing's. A well-appointed kitchen with quartz countertops and large island for incredible prep space. Living room features a floor-to-ceiling stone fireplace and soaring windows for big lake views. Four-season sunroom with slate flooring opens to deck and large, landscaped level yard for all your entertaining needs. Large master bedroom with a dream 4 piece ensuite. Main floor laundry, ample parking, double detached garage and much more. Enjoy a fun-filled day along the sandy beach area with a safe and gradual walk into deep clean swimming.

VACANT LOTS

30th Line - $69,900 4.99AC

WANTED
VACANT LAND

We have a set of Buyers looking for a building lot within 10-15 minutes of Haliburton. If you're thinking of selling - contact us today!

THE Haliburton REAL ESTATE TEAM

Call LINDA to learn more about why NOW is the time to sell. 705-457-6508